THE TARIFF LAW.

HE WAS THE MOST EXPERIENCED TARIFF EX-PERT IN THE HOUSE-WHAT HE DID TO GIVE SHAPE TO THE ACT AS PASSED.

Washington, May 19 .- Nothing can be meaner than an attempt to steal from a public servant than an eredit to which he is entitled. Platt and agents of the trusts are now asserting that McKinley really the trusts and with the framing of the McKinley had little to the Republicans in the House committee did a great part of the work, and that "the really hard labor was done by men like Aldrich and Allison in the Senate," and other assertions of like nature are often heard. This makes it oper, without disparaging other Republicans the rendered valuable service, to show something of the origin of the McKinley bill.

when McKinley was appointed chairman of the ways and Means Committee by Speaker Reed, the had been with him for many years on that ammittee, it was because he had become the nost capable expert in the House on the tariff pestion, and was the only Republican who had gred with Mr. Reed on that committee through pro previous Congresses. Mr. Burrows, of Michign, had served with Mr. Kelley in fighting the Mills bill of 1889, but he had not been a member the committee in the previous Congress when the fight was against the Morrison bill, while Mcginley, with Speaker Reed, had fought through all these campaigns. Messrs. Bayne, Dingley, McKenna, Payne, La Follette and Gear, the other Republican members of the committee in 1890, were all new to its work. Upon Mr. McKinley, with Mr. Burrows, who had served before only once, necessarily fell the bulk of the labor.

The bill submitted by McKinley to the commitse, the bill afterward reported by the committee to the House on April 16, the bill as it passed the House May 21, after only a month and five days; the bill reported by the Senate committee June 18, the bill sent to the conference committee September 15 and the bill as it finally passed, September 30, have been compared, item by item. of 1,141 provisions in the act finally passed, 945 were in the bill as originally submitted to the House committee by McKinley. In subsequent sessions of that committee 43 of the provisions finally adopted were added, doubtless in part at the desire of Mr. McKinley himself. Only 13 were afterward added in the House. There remain of the final act only 140 provisions, of which 73 were added by the Senate committee, and 67 were either added in the Senate or were the result of ompromises between the Senate and the House m conference committee.

It will be suggested that this reckoning credits m McKinley all the provisions retained from the previous tariff. That is true, and there were 255 such provisions fixing rates of duty, either in form or in practical effect, substantially the same as those of the tariff of 1883, though it may be noticed that a considerable number of these were by McKinley, so altered as to impose equivalent specific instead of former ad valorem duties. The distinct changes in rates from the previous tariff were 641, of which 456 are found, as they were finally adopted in the bill originally offered by McKinley, and 56 more were added before the bill left his committee. Only 13 were added in the House, 69 by the Senate committee, and 67 in the Senate or in conference. Every change but one made by the House was to raise duties above those proposed by the committee. The Senate committee raised duties higher than those of the House in 23 cases, restored the lower duties of the old law in 4, and in 38 substantially lowered duties below those of the House. In only 13 cases did the Senate or conference committee raise rates, while in 54 cases the Senate committee urged rates lower than those of the House, is that rates between the two were finally adopted. were 641, of which 456 are found, as they were

be that rates between the two-bloods.

In the changes made by the act of the sof all the changes made by the act of the sof all the original bill proposed by Mc-Kinley, and that 492 out 641, or 76.8 per cent, the placed in the bill before it eyer left his committee. The differences between the Senate and the House resulted in 36 advances of rates, in 42 reductions from the rates proposed by the House, of which 38 were reductions from the previous tariff, and in 54 compromises in which the Senate contended for lower rates than the House. There is thus given abundant evidence. Twentieth, Thomas Collins; Thirtieth, James P. Dyver: Thirty-fith, "Dan" O'Rourke; Thirty-sixth, "Mike" Callahan; Forty-fourth, Thomas Dineen. The differences between the Senate and the House resulted in 36 advances of rates, in 42 reductions from the rates proposed by the House, of which 38 were reductions from the previous tariff, and in 54 compromises in which the Senate contended for lower rates than the House. There is thus given abundant evidence of the great care taken to get at the right kind of duty in each case, and ample credit is due to all the able men in both houses who contributed to make the measure a success; but it cannot be contended by anybody that Major McKinley did not do his share of the work. Of the changes originally proposed by him which were finally adopted, 197 reduced rates from those previously in force, while 259 raised rates to afford more perfect protection; 57 of these were finally adopted, 197 reduced rates from those previously in force, while 259 raised rates to afford more perfect protection; 57 of these were finally adopted, 197 reduced rates from those previously in force, while 259 raised rates to afford more perfect protection; 57 of these were finally and woollens, and 22 in cotton. The Senate's efforts for lower duties were mainly in chemicals, 16 items; pottery and glassware, 14 items; in metals, 16 items; pottery and glassware, 14 items; in metals, 16 items, and in the agricultural schedule, 25 items.

The work of bribing the voters, the voting booth. His headquarters the work of bribing the voter that he allows, which were previously which were provided the more allower the official ballots which were given them and thus vote them as their ballots. He had in his possession "Tammany pasters," which contained the mames in print of the Democratic candidates from down, and which the voter to add the work of bribing the voters which were given them and thus vote them as their ballots which were given them and thus vote them as their ballots, the had on the voter to a fa

DISAGREEMENT ON THE NAVAL BILL HOUSE AND SENATE CONFERREES AT ODDS OF

NEW CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER POINTS. Washington, May 19 .- The conference report of the Naval bill was made to-day, and, as indicated in these dispatches last night, a disagreement shown on the important matters pertaining to th ncrease of the Navy, construction, machinery and equipment; also as to the price to be paid for plate and the employment of naval officers by private persons engaged in supplying armament to the Government. Among the important matters defitely settled are the following:

Acceptance of Senate amendments appropriating for testing methods of throwing high explosives from guns on shipboard with the ordinary ittes; increasing the appropriation for guns for auxiliary cruisers from \$250,000 to \$400,000, with a proviso that the Secretary of the Navy may, in his discretion, purchase all or any part of them by cona appropriating \$50,000 for arms, accountrements, etc., for the Naval Militia; appropriating \$5,000 for purchase of land adjoining Port Royal Naval allen; providing for quarters for the leader of the Band in addition to the Marine Corps officers and in the House bill; authorizing the construc tion of two submarine torpedo-boats of the Holland type at a cost not exceeding \$175,000 each, provided the best now being built fuifils all the requirements and is said said suifactory to the Secretary of the Navy, through a board composed of line and staff officers, to examine into the merits of any system presented for the propision of vessels by direct action against the water without the use of sorews, in comparison with the steam engine and the propeller, and into the relative efficiency of the two methods, etc.

The Sender receded from its amendment striking out the staff of the House bill which provides that officers of the Marine Corps travelling under orders without the said engineers of the Navy travelling without troops.

BUSINESS IN THE HOUSE. MR OWENS'S TITLE CONFIRMED-BILLS TO RE-

STRICT IMMIGRATION DISCUSSED. ington, May 19.—The House to-day passed resolution reported by Committee on Election No. I confirming the title of W. C. Owens (Dem.) to the seat he occupies as a Representative from the VIIth District of Kentucky, which had been ontested by George Denny, jr. (Rep.). It also Passed a resolution from the same committee, pro-viding for a recount of the ballots cast for Conresman in the XVIth Illinois District at the ection in November, 1894, in the contest of Rinar against Downing for the seat from that dis-

message of President Cleveland vetoing the to pension Caroline D. Mowatt was laid before ouse, and referred to the Committee on In-

Steele (Rep., Ind.), Cousins (Rep., Iowa) McClellan (Dem., N. Y.) were appointed visit on the part of the House to the West Point

Milary Academy.

Nearly all of the day was taken up by argument the Committee several bilis reported from the Committee migration and Naturalization to impose ad-il restrictions on immigration. Speeches were the committee, and Mr. Morse (Rep., Mass.) in favor of the McCail bill, imposing an educational state by Messrs. Tracewell (Rep., Ind.) and W. A. Blone (Rep., Penn.) in favor of the latter's bill, retaining consular inspection at the port of destruct by Messrs. Tracewell (Rep., Ind.) and W. A. Blone (Rep., Penn.) in favor of the latter's bill, retaining consular inspection at the port of destruct by Mr. Corliss (Rep., Mich.) in favor of its bill to relieve the lake cities especially of the surdens of Canadian competition, and by Mr. Buck (Botton of Canadian competition, and by Mr. Buck (Botton of Canadian competition and additional matriculars whatever. The speech of the last-sund in Messre (Mass effective. The extent of the applause of the matricular in the special indicate that none of the proposed measures ill mest the approval of a majority of the House. by Mr. Bartholdt (Rep., Mo.), chairman of

Silver Forks and Spoons of Sterling Standard, 925-1000 fine, of good weights and most desirable patterns, at \$1.10 per ounce.

THEODORE B. STARR 206 Fifth Ave., Madison Square.

MITCHELL AGAINST WALSH.

AN INTERESTING ELECTION CONTEST FROM THIS CITY.

GROSS TAMMANY FRAUDS SHOWN IN THE IID

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT - CONCLUSIONS OF HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE NO. 2. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, May 19 .- One of the most interesting ontested election cases with which either of the elections committees of the House of Representa-John Murray Mitchell, Republican, against James J. Walsh, Democrat, of the VIIIth New-York Disthis case has been submitted by Mr. Long, of Kan

trict. The report of Elections Committee No. 2 in sas, and it reveals an interesting state of affairs in the IId Assembly District, a portion of which is included in the VIIIth Congress District. since the contest was begun by Mitchell, Walsh has steadily and stubbornly fought for delay and has been successful in a large degree. He now appears, however, to have exhausted every dilatory expedient, and the case will soon be brought to trial and disposed of on its merits.

The decision of the case by the Elections Commit-

tee turned on five election districts, although nearly all of the thirty-four districts were attacked by Mitchell, who obtained a great mass of testimony showing glaring irregularities and frauds throughout the Ild Assembly District. The five districts referred to are thickly sprinkled with cheap lodging-houses, which suddenly become exceedingly populous and lively a few weeks before Election Day, and so remain until it is passed. In four of the five precincts no fewer than 837 persons were registered as voters from twenty lodging-houses-an average of more than forty-one to each house. In these four districts Walsh received 582 votes, and 558 of the voters gave as their places of residence these lodging-houses The committee found that "the clerks and proprietors of the lodging-houses were members of the Tammany organization," and that they "took an interest in the registration and gave material assistance in the corruption of the voters." Some of the other conclusions of the committee, after a thorough searching and sifting of the testimony, were as follows:

committee, after a thorough searching and sitting of the testimony, were as follows:

It appears from the evidence that a well-organized system of bribery was carried on in these lodging-houses by an organization known as Tammany Hall. This organization in its inception was a charitable institution, but it has for some years neglected its original purpose and design and has devoted itself exclusively to the management and control of politics in New-York City and has interested lizelf in the success of the Democratic party and its candidates. The contestee is a vice-president of this organization. Its plan of operations was peculiar, and while it existed in all parts of the VIIIth Congressional District and sought by every possible means to secure the election of contestee to Congress, yet the evidence of its operations in these five election districts a exceedingly plain and conclusive. The Tammany organization aside from its general officers included a "leader" for each Assembly district and a captain for each election district. The Tammany "leader" of the IId Assembly District was Patrick Divver, not unknown to fame as "Paddy" Divver. The Tammany captains in these five election districts were as follows: Twentieth, Thomas Collins; Thirtieth, James P. D. vver; Thirty-fifth, "Dan" O'Rourke; Thirty-sixth, "Mike" Callahan; Forty-fourth, Thomas Dineen. The work of bribing the voters in each district was intrusted to a Tammany captain, who carried on his

tains" of their respective districts for registering or voting or both, and who voted for Waish. The most amazing fact in relation to this is that Walsh did not offer any testimony whatever to disprove the charges of bribery. Not a Tammany "captain" on whom the charge was fastened by the testimony offered by Mitchell was put on the stand to disprove or even to contradict the statements made by nesses, or to assert his innocence. Waish insists that he should lose only those votes where individual instances of bribery were proven, despite fact that the evidence conclusively shows the existence of a conspiracy to corrupt voters by wholesale bribery. On this point the committee says:

ence of a conspiracy to corrupt voters by whotesale bribery. On this point the committee says:

Under the evidence in this case, and the failure of the contestee to explain or contradict the charges of bribery, we are forced to the conclusion that an organized conspiracy existed in these five election districts for the purpose of corrupting voters by general and wholesale bribery. It is impossible to determine the number of bribed votes or the names of the voters. These five election districts were thoroughly saturated with fraud and corruption. The case of Noyes against Rockwell (Congressional Election cases, Lilid Congress, page 23) clearly establishes the doctrine that where a conspiracy to corrupt voters by bribery is shown to exist and it is established that one voter of a class was bribed, that the votes of all persons belonging to the class who cast similar ballots should be rejected. In this case the existence of the conspiracy is clearly shown in these five election districts, and as it is impossible to determine the number of votes affected and also impossible to eliminate the bribed fected and also impossible to eliminate the bribed fected and also impossible to eliminate, we have reached the conclusion that the vote from these five districts should be eliminated from the count.

The report closes with two resolutions, one of

The report closes with two resolutions, one of which declares that Walsh was not elected and is not entitled to the seat, and that Mitchell was elected and is entitled to the seat

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BILL PASSED. ONLY TWO MORE GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILLS REMAIN TO BE ACTED ON BY

THE SENATE. Washington, May 19.-The Senate gave its attention to-day almost exclusively to the District of Columbia Appropriation bill, which, as reported from the Appropriations Committee, appropriated about of which one-half comes from the Treasury of the United States, and the other half from the taxes collected by the District Commissioners. Considerable debate occurred over the question of charities and hospitals—the House bill appropriating a lump sum to be distributed under contracts with the existing institutions, and the Senate Committee's amendment striking out that provision and substituting for it the usual specific items for the various hospitals, orphan asylums and other char-itable institutions. This proposition was sustained by the Senate by a vote of 35 to 13, and the bill was passed.

The only general appropriation bills remaining to be acted on by the Senate are the Fortifications and General Deficiency bills. The Senate at 6 p. m. adjourned until to-morrow.

SILVER MEN AND ADJOURNMENT. THEY CONTEMPLATE NO ACTION TO PROLONG THE SESSION OF CONGRESS.

Washington, May 19 (Special) .- Any definite move to prolong the session is not contemplated by the silver men in Congress. One thing or another may occur to delay adjournment day after day, but the situation is not such as to admit of an organ-ized movement to keep Congress here. Some of the silver men and the Democrats generally think that there might be some political advantage to them in having the session prolonged until after the National conventions, but all the imagined ad-vantage, they concede, would be lost if the responsibility for the delay were fixed on them. opportunity is not now offered to interfere with adjournment without taking responsibility. By indirect methods business might be made to drag along for a while, but the business which must be disposed of is in such a state that it cannot be

legitimately hung up for a great time. Moreover, the advantage to be gained over the Republicans by delay is too problematical to warrant any haste to accomplish it. The feeling is that the only thing which can keep Congress in session until after the conventions is some action by President Cleveland with that object in view.

WASHINGTON NEWS NOTES.

THE STORM BROKE UP THE CABINET MEETING.

A PENSION BILL VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT-FOUR DEATHS FROM MONDAY'S FIRE-WHY FREEMAN'S NOMINATION WAS REJECTED-A CONCESSION

FROM COREA.

Washington, May 19 .- A terrific storm of wind, rain and hall, which passed over Washington between 12 and 1 o'clock to-day, broke up the Cabinet meeting in progress at the White House. The President and his advisers went to the windows of the Cabinet-room to witness the destruction. Several of the fine old trees, both in front and rear of the White House, were blown down, while wholesale destruction was wrought among the growing palms. All over the city the record is one of similar disaster. The beautiful shade trees for which Washington is celebrated suffered greatly, and many buildings were unroofed. Nevertheless, the damage is less than was expected.

While the District of Columbia Appropriation bill was under consideration in the Senate, shortly before 1 o'clock, a sudden darkness overspread the chamber, so that it became necessary to have the gas lighted over the glass ceiling. Then the storm broke flercely, and vivid flashes of lightning were followed by peals of thunder. The glass roof was not impervious to the deluge of rain which fell on it, and it leaked at various points. Many Senators betook themselves to the Marble Room and other places from which they could observe the grand spectacle of the storm raging outside. The instruments of the Weather Bureau in the Marble Room show that the wind blew for four minutes at the rate of sixty miles an hour, with one spurt of seventy-five miles. The temperature fell twenty-five degrees in four minutes, and the rain fell in sheets, 25 of an inch being recorded in seventeen minutes. Fifteen minutes afterward the skies over the Capitol were free from clouds.

The President to-day returned to the House with out his signature a bill granting a pension to Caroline D. Mowatt as the widow of Alfred B. Soule, a major in a Maine regiment, who died in 1894. The widow afterward married Henry T. Mowatt, thereby forfeiting her right to a pension as the widow of Soule. Mowatt died in 1878, and the bill sought to restore her name to the pension rolls.

The bodies of two firemen, Thomas Conway, of Engine Company No 2, and Thomas A. Griffin, of Truck B, were recovered from the ruins of last night's disastrous fire at about 5 o'clock this morning after six hours' search. The list of fatalities ing after six hours search, the his sincreased to four to-day, when Joseph Muthall, of Engine Company No. 8, died at Providence Hospital from burns received early in the evening before the fire had gained full headway. The three other members of his company who were with him when a flaming floor fell, were resting comfortably to-day, and it is believed they will all recover, except possibly George W. Kettler, whose injuries are

The rejection by the Senate last evening of the nomination of H. A. Freeman to be postmaster at Burlington, N. C., was the result of representations made to the Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads by Senator Butler, of North Carolina. It was shown by Mr. Butler and corroborated by others that Freeman was a man who had terrorized the country and up public meetings wherever they were called by Populists and Republicans. An appeal was made to the committee and to the Senate to rebuke such an interference with the rights of free speech, and without taking a formal vote the Senate rejected the nomination. had gone about the work systematically breaking

The session of the Regular Army and Navy Union to-day was wholly given up to considering the in-ternal affairs of the order and amending its laws, the meetings being held behind closed doors. large element is pressing resolutions criticising the management of soldiers' homes, in support of which all the members of the union are taxed, as it is said, without adequate representation. The annual report of National Commander J. B. Morton calls for the enactment by Congress of a twenty-five-year retirement law in the Army and Navy.

reported the bill providing that no telegraph or cable company enjoying exclusive privileges or franchises from foreign Governments may land its lines in this country without the consent of Con-It also reported the bill amending the act of February 9, 1881, granting a right of way for rallway purposes through certain public lands in Richmond County, N. Y., so that the Staten Island Rapid Transit Hallway Company may construct a thirty-foot tunnel through the lands of the United MISS BARTON NOT HINDERED States now occupied by the lighthouse establishment States now occupied by the lighthouse establishment at New-Brighton for the purpose of constructing a radiway. It also provides that all railway companies shall enjoy the privileges of the tunnol. Last week the committee passed a resolution to withdraw from the House the Sherman bill, which had been reported a few weeks previously, and which amended the imprisonment feature of the Interstate Commerce law by substituting therefor a fine of \$11,000 for each violation of the statute. To day the committee rescinded that action. This leaves the bill on the calendar of the House, with a favorable report from the committee. The motion to this effect was carried by a vote of 19 to 4. The committee adopted a resolution inviting members of the Interstate Commerce Commission, Boards of Trade and other interested persons to appear at the next meeting and be heard with reference to the Sherman bill.

The eighth annual convention of State Rails Commissioners, with the Interstate Commerce Com-mission, met here to-day with Simeon P. Billings, of

'APENTA'

THE BEST NATURAL APERIENT WATER.

Buttled at the UJ HUNYADI

SPRINGS, Buda Pest, Hungary.

Considering the nature of the Hungarian Bitter Water Springs, it must obviously be desirable for the medical profession and the public to be assured authoritatively that the working of these Springs is carried on in a scientific manner, and not merely on commercial lines, and with this view the Uj Hunyadi Springs, from which "Apenta" Water is drawn, are placed under the absolute control of the Royal Hungarian Chemical Institute (Ministry of Agri-

PRICES: 10 cts. and 25 cts. per bottle. Of all Druggists and Mineral Water Dealers.

culture), Buda Pest.

Sole Exporters:

THE APOLLINARIS CO., LD.

AGAINST FREE ALCOHOL.

PROSPECTS OF PASSING THE REPEAL BILL AT THIS SESSION.

IT IS SHOWN THAT THE MEASURE WILL SAVE FROM \$8,000,000 TO \$12,000,000 TO THE TREAS-URY-MR. PLATT ITS ONLY OPPONENT

Washington, May 19.-The proposition to repeal free alcohol clause of the Wilson bill came up in the Senate Finance Committee meeting this morning for an informal discussion, regardless of the fact that the matter is now before the Senate and out of the hands of the committee. All the members of the committee favor repeal, except Mr Platt, of Connecticut. During the discussion of the measure strong statements were made by Republican members, and acquiesced in by the Demerats, showing the imperative necessity for such action and the saving thereby of an annual loss of between \$8,000,000 and \$12,000,000.

One of the Republican leaders also made the statement that the Republicans were in favor of the principle sought to be established by granting free alcohol for use in the arts and sciences, but that it must be accompanied by such regulations and provisions of law as will enable the Treasury Department to carry it into effect and at the same time protect the Government against the encroach ments of those who seek through such a law to evade the payment of just internal revenue taxes. This could only be accomplished by a revision of the law, and this, the Republicans said, they were prepared to undertake when they secured the control of both branches of Congress.

understood that sufficient votes have been secured to take the question from the table and make it the unfinished business after the appropribills are out of the way. Whether it will ultimately pass is a question the future may de-Senators in touch with the organization of the Senate and leaders in both parties say that of the Senate and readers in outputs as you the repeal of the free alcohol clause will be an accomplished fact before the session adjourns, Statements will be made, they say, on the floor of the Senate which will prevent Senators, especially from New-England, going back to their constituents with a record behind them of having delayed the session by fillbustering, or of having voted against this recent

this receal.

While the assertion was not made in positive terms, there appears to have been a plain intimation at the meeting this morning that this repeal has been booked for passage before the present session adjusted.

THE PORTE CORDIALLY CO-OPERATING IN HER RELIEF WORK.

SHE WEITER TO SECRETARY OLNEY OF THE SUC-CESS OF HER MISSION AND THE VALUABLE

Washington, May 19.—Secretary Olney has received a letter from Miss Clara Barton, in which, refer-

ring to rumors that she was prohibited from distrib-uting relief in Asia Minor except under direction and control of the Turkish authorities and from lists of persons furnished by Turkish officers, she emphatically denies that any members or officials of the Turkish Government have ever tried in any way to lirect or control her distributions. She adds

Commensures, with the Interest a Countree commensures, with the Interest and Commensures of Chical of the Chicago and the Interest of Inte

MR. ALDRIDGE COMES HIGH.

HIS ADMINISTRATION COSTLY AND HE WANTS MORE PAY.

GOVERNOR MORTON CONSIDERING A BILL THAT WOULD GIVE HIM \$2,500 A YEAR FOR "TRAV-ELLING EXPENSES"-DEPARTMENT

EXTRAVAGANCE.

Albany, May 19 (Special).-Governor Morton, it s reported, is concerned about an attempt to increase the salary of George W. Aldridge, Superintendent of Public Works, from \$6,000 to \$8,500, in contravention of the Constitution. It is true there is not a direct increase of salary, but in an indirect way it will be accomplished if Mr. Morton approves of the following appropriation item in the Supplementary Supply bill:

For the Superintendent of Public Works, the sum of \$2,500, payable in monthly instalments, in lieu of and in full of travelling expenses and disbursements incurred by him.

This appropriation invites attention to the travelling-expenses account of Edward Hannan, of Troy, who preceded Aldridge as Superintendent of Public Works, and of Aldridge himself. Mr. Hannan's travelling expenses were as

WHAT HE REALLY SPENDS.

Aldridge went into office on February 1, 1895. His bills since then for travelling expenses have been as follows:

July 11, 1895.
August 8, 1895.
October 31, 1896.
December 4, 1895.
December 31, 1896.
February 7, 1896.
February 7, 1896.
February 1896.
April 1, 1896.
May 1, 1896.

Thus for the fifteen months from February. 1895, to May 1, 1896, Aldridge drew only \$952 86 for travelling expenses, and yet he asks for \$2,500 for travelling expenses for twelve months. The accounts show that in the year from May, 1895, to May, 1896, he spent only \$789 47. He would thus put into his pocket yearly, if Mr. Morton should approve the bill in question, \$1.710 53 in addition to his salary of \$6,000.

It should be stated that there was some legitinate increase of the travelling expenses of the Superintendent of Public Works between the administration of Mr. Hannan and that of Mr. Aldridge, owing to the prohibition of the use of railroad passes, but the railroad pass provision is no excuse for such an increase as is contemplated. A CONSTITUTIONAL BAR.

The Constitution has some provisions which public officials occasionally ignore. Possibly Mr. Morton has noticed the following declaration of Section 18 of Article III:

The Legislature shall not pass a private or local bill in any of the following cases: Creating, increas-ing or decreasing fees, percentage or allowances of public officers during the term for which said officers are elected or appointed. Mr. Aldridge has bowed to the Civil Service Commission in the matter of the appointment

of the collectors of canal statistics, and of the clerks of these collectors. It will be remembered that fifty-five of these collectors and their clerks were appointed in defiance of the laws of the State last year, not having passed any examination as to their qualifications. The Court of Appeals declared that they were illegally appointed, and Mr. Morton now has bills before him for their payment. MANY COULD NOT PASS.

This year the Civil Service Commissioners informed Aldridge in February that they were ready to examine persons for those places, but he took no action until the canais were about to be opened. Then he went to Governor Morton and desired him to put the collectors of canal statistics and their clerks in the schedule not requiring examination. Mr. Morton refused to grant this request, and, accordingly, the applicants for the places had to submit to an examination. Of the fifty-five persons appointed last year twenty-seven did not present themselves for examination. Of the twentyeight who did present themselves, sixteen were rejected, one was disbarred, and eleven passed. It was thus clearly shown that a large proportion of the men appointed as collectors of canal statistics and their clerks last year were not qualified to hold their places.

The increase of the number of employ Superintendent of Public Works under the Aldridge administration is startling. Mr. Hannan men, patrolmen and special agents at a yearly cost of \$17.211 In 1895, under Aldridge's administration, this force was increased to seventy-two men, and the cost of the service ran up to \$49.827. employed a supervisory force of twenty-four fore-

MORE SIGNIFICANT FIGURES.

The Aldridge administration has also been costly in other respects. From 1890 to the close of the fiscal year ending October 1, 1896, the annual appropriation for lock-tending and ordinary land repairs has been \$670,000. A deficiency bill of \$200,000, however, was introduced for the present fiscal year. This would bring up the actual appropriation for the present fiscal year to \$870,000. The appropriation for the fiscal year beginning on October 1, 1896, is put at \$770,000, or \$100,000 more than was the yearly sum during

or \$100,000 more than was the yearly sum during the Hannan administration.

A glance at the various canal taxes also shows that the cost of maintaining and improving the canals is largely increasing. The following is taken from the estimates for the State tax levy

Five one-hundredths of a mill for new work on the canals will yield.

Thirteen one-hundredths of a mill for payment of canal-improvement debt will yield. will yield
Add canal tax for maintenance and ordi-mary repairs, 25-100 of a mill
Canal tax for extraordinary expenses, 10-100 of a mill

SHAKERS AS REAL ESTATE OPERATORS.

A QUESTION OF THEIR TRUSTEES' POWERS-THE FLORENCE BUILDING LEASE.

The lease of the Florence Building by Theodore C. Gross to the Society of Shakers, of Mount Le-C. Gross to the Society of Shakers, of Mount Le-banon, has stirred up considerable controversy re-garding the functions of the trustees of the society and their responsibility in conducting real estate operations. The Florence Building, which is at Sec-ond-ave, and First-st., was leased by Mr. Gross at an annual rental of 5 per cent on \$200,000. The negotiations for the Shakers were conducted through Robert Valentine, one of the two trustees authorized by the Shakers to represent them. It is said by real estate men of this city who have had ochas a right to consummate any agreement involv-ing \$25,000 or less. The lease of the Florence Building will call for \$10,000 a year, and hence this will come within this limit. Benjamin Gates, who is a trustee with Mr. Valen-

tine, has been in the city the last few days, and it is understood that he has been making objections to certain leases and purchases conducted by Mr. Valentine. Mr. Gates is seventy-nine years old and Mr. Valentine is seventy-one years old. served long as members of the Society of Shakers. The controversy between them is of long standing, and it is charged that each is jealous of the other. A. J. White, of No. 30 Reade-st., who is an agent

for the medicinal products of the Shakers, said yesterday: "Mr. Gates has had charge of the so-clety's interests in Florida, where some 10,000 acres of land have recently been purchased, and where the society will probably settle, and Mr. Valentin the society will probably settle, and Mr. Vaientine has had charge of the business interests in New-York City. Mr. Valentine leased the Hotel Graham, at Eighty-ninth-st. and Madison-ave., from ex-Controller Loew; also the Domestic Building, at Broadway and Fourteenth-st., and the Balmoral Hotel, at One-hundred-and-fourteenth-st. and Lenox-ave. He has also secured the lease of other property in this city. Now, I charge that he has done this in his own name, and not as the trustee of the Society of Shakers. And even if he has signed as trustee, I say that his signature was good for nothing without the signature of the other trustee."

Theodore C. Gross, who has just leased the Florence Building to the Shakers, said yesterday: "That lease is as good as gold. Either one of the trustees has the right to sign an agreement involving 25,000 or less. I have looked into the whole matter carefully, and I think I know what I am talking about."

Waltham Watches

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THE SITE OF THE BIG LIBRARY.

GOVERNOR MORTON SIGNS THE BILL AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE OLD RESERVOIR LAND.

Albany, May 19 .- Governor Morton has signed Assemblyman Austin's bill authorizing the use of the land now occupied by the old reservoir at Fortysecond-st, and Fifth-ave., in New-York City, for a free public library and reading-room, to be erected under the supervision of the New-York Public Library—Astor, Lenox and Tilden foundations.

The question of the best site for the New-York Public Library has been under discussion for many months, in fact, ever since it was decided to combine the Astor, Lenox and Tilden foundations into one grand library. At one time there was talk of build-ing on the site of the Lenox Library, fronting on Central Park, but that did not meet with ing on Central Fark, but that did not neet with much favor. From the outset there has been a popular demand to have the great library building erected on the ground now occupied by the old reser-voir at Fifth-ave, and Forty-second-st. When there was a serious threat to tear down the City Hall to make room for a large municipal building many per-sons were in favor of removing the reservoir and moving the old City Hall to that site, to be preserved as one of the Public Library buildings. Designs for new buildings for the Public Library

on the reservoir site were sketched long ago and were exhibited, but they may not be used. There

were exhibited, but they may not be used. There have been many difficulties in the way of obtaining the reservoir site for the library, and some people have raised objections on the ground that the reservoir might be needed to sustain the water-pressure in the lower part of the city. At a recent hearing before Mayor Strong, however, it was asserted that the laying of larger water-mains in Fifth-ave., at a moderate cost, would keep up the pressure and make the reservoir practically useless.

For years many New-Yorkers have declared that the old reservoir should be removed, because it was unsightly and occupied ground of great value. Real estate men have said that the removal of the reservoir and the extension of Bryant Park would increase the values of property in that part of the city enormously. The general comment of citizens has shown that the removal of the old reservoir and the extension of the old reservoir and the erection of imposing buildings for the Public Library on the site will meet with popular favor.

DINNER FOR MESSRS. FORD AND AUSTIN. A complimentary dinner is to be given to State nator John Ford and Assemblyman George C.

Austin on Friday evening at the rooms of the West Side Republican Club, in the Hotel Endicott, at Coside Republican Cuib, in the Hotel Endicott, at Co-lumbus-ave, and Eighty-second-st. Mayor Strong, Speaker Fish and other prominent Republicans are expected to be at the dinner and make addresses. Arrangements for the dinner have been in charge of al committee headed by Cephas Brainerd, jr., of the New Amsterdam Club of the XXIst Assembly District. Senator Ford is the president of that club. TO WEEKLY TRIBUNE ADVERTISERS.

It is necessary for advertisers to have their copy in the office for The Weekly Tribune before Tues-